

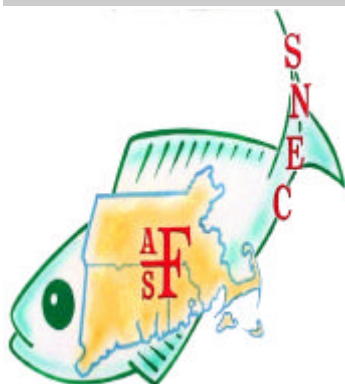
THE SOUNDER

The Newsletter of the Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

WINTER 1999

The President's Message

Maintaining Our Momentum



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Maintaining the Momentum! That's the theme for the 2000 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference and I believe best describes the direction of the Chapter as we head into the millennium. Following the tremendous success of the 1998 Annual AFS meeting in Hartford, it is necessary that the Chapter work harder than ever to meet the challenges that face the fisheries profession in the future. In this fast-paced, ever changing world, the need to keep up-to-date with the latest science and technology is an absolute necessity in the work place. Thus, it is the goal of the Chapter to assist members with continuing education opportunities to help meet this demand. Along those lines, the Chapter is looking into both developing and sponsoring continuing education workshops. Of course, we are always looking for ideas and input as to your continuing education needs, so please provide Marcy Anderson, Chair of the Education Committee with any feedback.

Many of you may know that the Chapter, after much debate, voted to create an affiliate membership category. Individuals who are not members of the American Fisheries Society may become Chapter members by paying an annual \$10 membership fee.

Since the creation of the new affiliate membership category, one of my first objectives as president was to re-institute the membership committee and initiate a membership drive. With the new affiliate membership category, the Chapter is hoping to become more inclusive by attracting professionals in natural resource fields, engineers, and fisheries people who for some reason or another just don't support the Parent Society. Chuck Phillips and Chris Powell, two very dynamic and enthusiastic people will lead this committee. Please inform your co-workers about this new membership opportunity. Membership forms will be included in this newsletter and will also be available at the upcoming winter meeting that will be held at the Coastal Institute, URI, Narragansett on January 12, 2000.

Financial planning has become a recent fixture of the Chapter. Our financial status for such a small Chapter is quite "robust" due to t-shirt sales and monies received from the Parent Society for participation at the 1998 annual meeting. Building upon that surplus, the Chapter is investing a portion of these monies into mutual funds to help provide a long term and stable financial base for future activities.

I want to briefly talk about volunteerism. There has been a basic core of people who have helped run the Chapter in recent years. These people work tirelessly behind the scenes and without their help, we couldn't provide members with the numerous services and benefits such as biannual meetings, newsletters and maintaining the web site to just name a few. Folks, we can't do this alone, we need your help! I personally challenge all Chapter members who haven't yet participated in Chapter activities to **get involved and volunteer some of your time!** Ask yourself, "How can I give something back to the Chapter!" We have many committees you can join and numerous ways to help out. It can be a very rewarding experience, and believe it or not, you can have some fun in the process! So, let's maintain the momentum!

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!



Keep In Touch With the SNEC BOD!

ELECTED OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	Brian Murphy	brianmurphy@po.state.ct.us (860) 344-2115
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<i>Secretary/ Treasurer</i>	Penny Howell	Penny.Howell@po.state.ct.us (230)434-6150
<i>Past President</i>	John Kocik	jkocik@whsun1.wh.who.edu (508)495-2207

CHAIRS and Co-CHAIRS

<i>CT FAC Rep.</i>	Donald Danila	danildj@NU.COM (860)447-1791
<i>Education</i>	Marcy Anderson	manderso@canur1.cag.uconn.edu (860)486-2840
<i>Environmental Affairs</i>	Chris Tomichuk	TOMICCA@NU.COM (860)444-4235
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<i>Student Affairs</i>	Gregory Whritenour	gwhriten@student.umass.edu (413)545-3749
<i>Student Paper</i>	Grace Klein MacPhee	gracemac@gsosun1.gso.uri.edu (401)874-6175

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

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Dennis Erkan	derkan@edgenet.net (401)789-0281
Martha Mather	mather@forwild.umass.edu (413)545-4895
Rob Neumann	rneumann@canr1.cag.uconn.edu (860)486-2840
Jack B. Pearce	buzbay@cape.com (508)540-4572

**SNEC AFS Chapter Cash Flow Report
July 1, 1999 through November 1, 1999**

Category Description

INFLOWS

Invest Inc \$ 87.51

TOTAL INFLOWS 87.51**OUTFLOWS**

Awards \$155.00

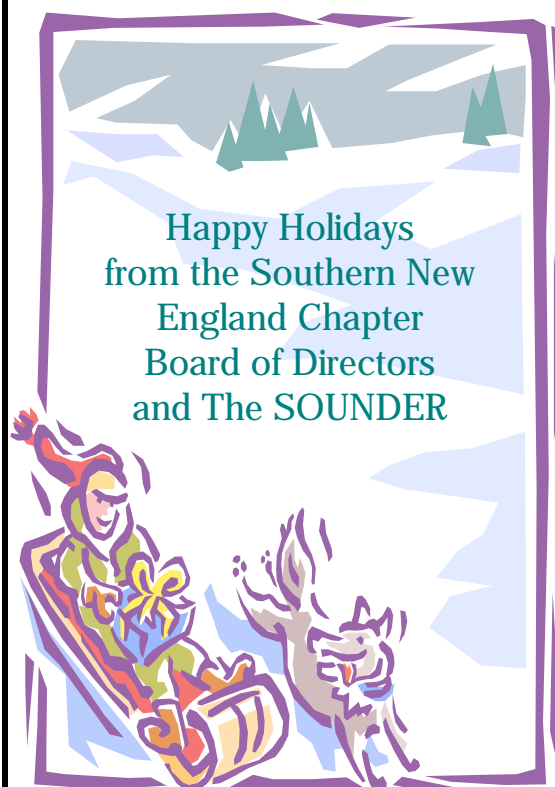
Bank Charges 19.80

Meetings:

Meeting BOD 16.54

Meeting Summer 457.07

Meeting Winter 21.40

TOTAL Meetings 495.01**TOTAL OUTFLOWS** 669.81**TOTAL CASH FLOW** (-582.30)**BALANCE as of 11/15/99** \$ 5,491.81

**Saul B. Saila Best Student
Paper Award Winner -
Christopher Baumann**

The Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is proud to recognize **Christopher Baumann** (University of Massachusetts - Amherst) as the winner of the Saul B. Saila Best Student Paper Award at the Chapter's Summer 1999 meeting in Hadley, Massachusetts. Chris' presentation, Assessing brook trout micro-habitat use by mapping physical characteristics of streams - a new methodology was co-authored by Michael R. Ross and Paul K. Barten of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Congratulations to Chris, Mike

Award Nominations Sought

and Paul.

The Professionalism Committee seeks nominations for four awards established by the Southern New England Chapter. These awards recognize the outstanding contributions that SNEC individual members, professional organizations, and citizens' organizations make to professional activities and aquatic resource conservation. These awards are:

Award of Excellence - The Award of Excellence recognizes an AFS member who has made exceptional contributions to the field(s) of fishery administration, education, management or research. Criteria for the award can include significant publications, exceptional service, outstanding teaching or training of students, important discoveries or inventions, or other major contributions to the advancement of fishery science.

Irwin Alperin Outstanding Member Award - The Membership Service Award recognizes a Chapter member who has made outstanding contributions to the Chapter and/or the Parent Society. Criteria for this Award include significant service to AFS through volunteerism, active participation in standing or

ad-hoc committees, increasing public awareness of SNEC and AFS activities, encouraging student involvement/membership, membership recruiting, or other important contributions that advance Chapter and Profession goals.

Citizens Aquatic Conservation Award

- The Citizens Aquatic Conservation Award recognizes an individual or individuals from outside the fisheries profession that have made an outstanding contribution to conservation or the fisheries profession in Southern New England. Criteria for this award include activities that 1) protect, conserve or restore aquatic habitat and fisheries, 2) improve sustainable recreational and commercial fishery opportunities, 3) support federal, state, tribal, or private management and research agencies responsible aquatic resources, or 4) otherwise support the stewardship of aquatic resources or the enrichment of the fisheries profession.

Outstanding Organization Award - The Outstanding Organization Award recognizes academic, governmental, private, or tribal organizations and units for their current or historic advances in the stewardship of aquatic ecosystems, advancement of fisheries science, or service to the profession. Criteria for this award include exemplary activities to 1) protect, conserve or restore aquatic ecosystems, 2) improve sustainable recreational and commercial fishery opportunities, 3) develop new scientific methods, equipment, computer software, etc., 4) improve interactions of their organizations with aquatic resource user groups and the general public, or 5) enhance the status and visibility of the fisheries profession.

Letters nominating individuals or groups for these awards or questions concerning the awards program should be

directed to the Chair of the Professionalism Committee. Nominations for each Award must be in writing and accompanied by a nominative justification, not to exceed two pages, but in sufficient detail for the Committee to make a sound judgement in the selection process. **The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2000.** Clearly, there are outstanding individuals and organizations in our region worthy of chapter recognition. Please take the time to nominate these deserving individuals and or-

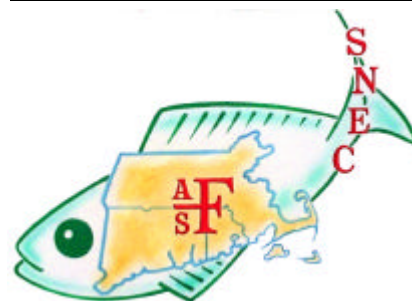
This is a short note to let you know that the next **International Congress on the Biology of Fish** will be held in Aberdeen, Scotland, July 23-26, 2000. Information on this meeting is available at the following website:

<http://www.fishbiologycongress.org>

The complete proceedings of the 1998 Congress are also available at the website, free for downloading by anyone (in Adobe Acrobat format). Information on how to get printed copies of previous proceedings is also provided.

Planning for the individual Symposia for the Aberdeen Fish Biology Congress are just starting. If you have suggestions, or would like to be involved in organizing a session, please let me know.

Don D. MacKinlay
Habitat & Enhancement Branch
Fisheries & Oceans Canada
555 West Hastings St.



Save The Date: A Calendar of Upcoming Events of Diverse Interests

International Congress on the Biology of Fish	23-26 August, 2000	Aberdeen, Scotland
Ecological Society of America [Annual Meetings]	7-10 August, 2000	Snowbird, UT
American Fisheries Society [Annual Meetings]		20-24 August, 2000 St. Louis, MO
2001	Phoenix, AZ	19-23 August,
2002	Baltimore, MD	21-25 August,
International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Annual Science Conference		
Oct, 2000	Bruges, Belgium	27 Sep - 3
		26 Sep-2 Oct, 2001 Oslo, Norway
		1 - 8 Oct, 2002

Acceptance Speech By John Boreman Upon Receiving the AFS Meritorious Service Award

I am truly honored and deeply moved by this award.

I would like each of you to think back on your careers, to the people who lifted you up, who had faith in your ability and gave you the opportunities to demonstrate it, who eased your conscience when you made a wrong choice, but who also allowed you the freedom to make choices in the first place.

Think of the people who taught you, not from books or lecture notes, but by sitting beside you and working with you until you were strong enough to try it on your own.

Think of the people who made sure you were able to attend meetings like this one, oftentimes going out of their way to find funding and argue on your behalf for inclusion, then making sure you were introduced at the meetings to the leaders in **your field**, and also making sure you were prepped so you could conduct intelligent conversation.

I'm sure you all can remember these people. They might have been your teachers, friends, relatives, supervisors, co-workers, or mentors.

It is to these people in my career, and also to these people in yours, that I dedicate this award.

129th Annual Meeting, Charlotte, NC

30 August 1999

The SOUNDER is the biannual publication of the Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Material for the next issue of the SOUNDER may be submitted to Co-editors Timothy Sheehan and Dave Basler by mail, e-mail or fax at the following locations:

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NMFS/NEFSC
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Woods Hole, MA 02543

Dave Basler
daveb89@aol.com
MassWILDLIFE
341 East Street
Belchertown, MA 01007

Welcome New Members!

The following is a list of our newest members from 4/99 to 9/99, as provided by the American Fisheries Society. Welcome Aboard!

H.D. Ahlberg, David Alves, Kenneth L. Bergstrom, Dr. Lawrence J. Buckley, Daniel E. Campbell, Michael Carey, Matthew Carnisa, David Furtado, Rebecca J. Jones, Ryan Pelis, Christopher Renshaw, Joan K. Tracey, Mark Tupper

Marty M. Hale, President-Elect of the SDAFS, recently wrote: "As an AFS officer, one of my more enjoyable responsibilities is to attend chapter meetings. During one of these meetings, a member asked "why should I be a member of AFS, what do I get?". That was a fair question and deserved a better answer than I could formulate on my feet. Fortunately for me, the AFS Membership Committee developed a list of 28 benefits of being a member of AFS, and I would like to share those with you..."

1. Participate in one or more of 54 chapters, 21 sections, and 4 divisions, on technical subjects ranging from socioeconomics to computer use, and fish ecology.
 2. Receive Fisheries monthly and learn about science and resource issues, what is going on in the Society, and about developments in the profession.
- (watch this space for more reasons AFS membership should be in your future)

News from the Fisheries World

Sea Turtle Mass Strandings.

On Nov. 16-18, 1999, at least 100 loggerhead, green and Kemp's ridley sea turtles washed ashore on Cape Cod after apparently being stunned by cold waters. This is about 3 times the normal stranding rate. Although at least 11 of the turtles have died, another 35 were to have been flown to rehabilitation centers in FL}} [Tampa Tribune, Boston Globe]

Shark Cartilage and Cancer.

On Nov. 10, 1999, the Canadian government and Quebec City biopharmaceutical firm Aeterna Laboratories Inc. announced a joint cancer research investment of about C\$100 million. Trial tests of the shark cartilage derivative, Neovastat, will be conducted as part of this 5-year research program. [Reuters]

Sea Turtle Lawsuit. On Nov. 8, 1999, a HI federal district court judge heard testimony on a lawsuit against NMFS by the Center for Marine Conservation and the Sea Turtle Restoration Project. In February 1999, NMFS was accused of violating the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act by allowing the HI longline fish-

ery to operate without adequately protecting sea turtles. [CMC press release]

Pfiesteria? In early November 1999, VA scientists reported that the cause of a mid-October 1999 fish kill of menhaden in the lower James River was likely caused by the microscopic parasite Kudoa, rather than Pfiesteria. These scientists suggested that Kudoa might be an alternative explanation for some of the fish kills blamed on Pfiesteria. [MSNBC, Washington Post]

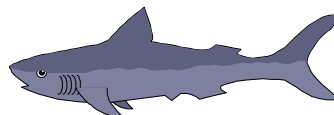
American Eel Fishery. On Nov. 4, 1999, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission unanimously approved a fishery management plan for the American eel, focusing on data collection on the resource and fishery. This plan would require states to conduct annual young-of-the-year surveys on eel. [ASMFC press release]

Horseshoe Crab Management. On Nov. 3, 1999, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Horseshoe Crab Management Board met in Mystic, CT, to discuss possible restrictions on catch of horseshoe crabs, such as a 25% reduction in state landings of horseshoe

crabs used for eel and conch bait. The board approved the development of an addendum to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Horseshoe Crab that would implement a coast-wide landings cap for the commercial bait fishery for horseshoe crab. The Board will consider approval the addendum itself at meetings in February 2000. [Boston Globe, ASMFC press release]

New England Groundfish. On Nov. 2, 1999, the Multispecies Monitoring Committee of the New England Fishery Management Council released a new scientific report noting that although some groundfish stocks appear to be rebounding in abundance, commercial catch needs to be reduced sharply to meet conservation goals of the Magnuson-Stevens Act many species. Reductions of 60% to 94% are recommended for 7 of 11 groundfish stocks, with only yellowtail flounder off Cape Cod and on Georges Bank able to sustain more fishing. [Boston Globe]

Swissair Crash Site Opened for Fishing. On Nov. 2, 1999,



The Southern New England Chapter Board of Directors 1999/2000

President

Brian Murphy

President-Elect

Russell Brown

Secretary-Treasurer

Penny Howell

Past President

John Kocik

Education

Marcy Anderson

Environmental Affairs

Chris Tomichek

Membership

Chris Powell

Chuck Phillips

Newsletter

Tim Sheehan

Dave Basler

Professionalism

Carolyn Griswold

Program Development

Lesa Meng

Publicity

Don Danila

Student Affairs

Greg Whritenour

CT Fisheries Advisory Council

Donald J. Danila

At Large Members:

Joe Buttner, Dennis Erkan, Martha Mather, Rob Neumann, Jack Pearce

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY APPOINTS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Bethesda, Md.--Ghassan ("Gus") Rassam, a recognized leader in the online publishing and nonprofit association communities, has been appointed the fifth executive director of the American Fisheries Society (AFS). As such, Rassam will head the world's largest and oldest organization of fisheries professionals at a time when the Society is launching a five-year strategic plan that focuses on fisheries and aquatic stewardship, professional development, and a greatly expanded communications program.

"Gus joins AFS at an auspicious time," said Robert Kendall, acting director during the executive search. "Moving the Society toward the goals of our ambitious strategic plan will require great management skill and an ability to keep AFS on a sound and growing financial base, qualities Gus has shown abundantly in his previous positions. His skills match up well with our institutional needs as we embark on a new era of fisheries management, science, and conservation. I am very pleased with his appointment."

Barbara Knuth, Cornell University professor and member of the AFS Search Committee, agreed, saying she was impressed by Rassam's "great potential to address all three major goals in the new strategic plan as well as bring his considerable expertise to bear on a related goal, financial security."

Rassam trained in the geosciences, earning a master's degree at Miami University (Ohio) and a Ph.D at the University of Minnesota. He has been a Fulbright scholar and did graduate study at the Sorbonne University in Paris. Prior to moving into the association management field, Rassam spent several decades as a petroleum geologist, database developer, and teacher in the United States and France. In 1987 he merged his scientific background and communications skills when he became director of marketing and public information, and assistant director of publications with the American Geophysical Union. Among his responsibilities were electronic publications, a weekly newspaper, and a monthly magazine for nonprofessionals, and public affairs programs.

In 1994 Rassam moved to the Optical Society of America, a professional society devoted to the fields of fiber optics and laser technology. There, he served as director of publications and was part of a three-person team that ran the \$18-million organization for a year. His development of the organization's electronic journal publication, book publishing and marketing programs brought him wide recognition in the science publishing community and proved his ability to raise significant funds for major projects aimed at advancing the profession and science. Ultimately, Rassam took charge of marketing, customer relations, program development, and several other key activities. Among his many accomplishments was the institution of an international development program.

Rassam also has shared both his communications and scientific expertise with numerous government and professional entities. He chaired the Commission on Geological Documentation of the International Union of Geological Sciences and served on the executive board of the International Council for Scientific and Technical Information. He also was president of the Association of Earth Science Editors and was a member of the governing board and executive committee of the American Institute of Physics.

"Gus has an exceptionally strong background in managing large and complex professional societies like AFS,"

J
O
B
S

Fish come and go, but it is the memory of afternoons on the stream that endure — E. Donnall Thomas

One thing becomes clearer as one gets older and one's fishing experience increases, and that is the paramount importance of one's fishing companions — John Ashley-Cooper

The man who keeps everything locked up in his heart will know far less than he who compares notes with his fellows. — Theodore Gordon

Adopt the pace of nature— her secret is patience. — Ralph Waldo Emerson

“!”

News from the Fisheries World

officials of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada announced that the waters off Peggy's Cove, NS, were re-opened for fishing. An exclusion (Continues on Pg.7) zones in these waters had prevented fishing since the Swissair Flight 111 crash of Sept. 2, 1998. More than 200 fishermen await word from Swissair on compensation for losses incurred after fishing was prohibited in these waters. [National Post]

Atlantic Striped Bass. On Nov. 2, 1999, the ASMFC's Striped Bass Management Board approved year 2000 management

measures for striped bass, including at least a 14% reduction in fishing mortality for older, larger fish. [ASMFC press release]

Tautog Management. On Nov. 1, 1999, the Atlantic States Marine Fishery Commission's Tautog Management Board approved a measure that would delay until Apr. 1, 2002 a requirement that all states implement management measures to achieve a fishing mortality rate for tautog of 0.15 by Apr. 1, 2000. [ASMFC press release]

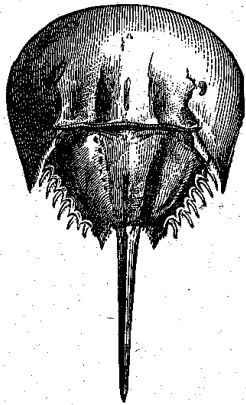
Fish and Weight Loss. In a report published in the November

1999 issue of the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Australian researchers concluded that daily consumption of fish rich in omega-3 fatty acids as part of a weight-loss plan assists in weight loss and improves overall health. [Reuters]

Cancer Drugs from the Ocean. In late October 1999, the National Cancer Institute awarded \$2.1 million of a \$4.9 million grant to the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, FL, to discover and develop new anti-cancer drugs from marine organisms. Partners in the larger grant include the Univ. of MN, OR State Univ., Univ. of CA Santa Cruz, and the Swiss phar-

maceutical company Novartis Inc. [Assoc Press]

Tern Predation on Salmon. On Nov. 2, 1999, a team of researchers presented the Northwest Power Planning Council (NPPC) with a plan to reduce tern predation on seaward-migrating juvenile Columbia River salmon by 25%. The NPPC would like to see predation reduced by 67% to 75%. Part of the effort would involve harassing birds to cause them to leave Rice Island and relocate closer to the Pacific Ocean. The NPPC is scheduled to take action on the plan in December 1999, determining whether to provide about half the \$1.3 million project costs.



Horseshoe Crabs at the Center of a Coastwide Controversy

There is a brewing coast-wide controversy over the harvest of the humble and poorly understood horseshoe crab. Not really a crab at all but more closely related to spiders and ancient fossil trilobites, the animal can live up to 30 years, taking 10 years before it can reproduce. Several years ago, researchers in Massachusetts discovered that its blood has properties that make it very useful in testing drug purity. Other researchers are looking into its usefulness in treatment of auto-immune diseases. The most well known behavior is the species' spring ritual of marching up on the beach to spawn *en masse* and lay thousands of eggs in the wet sand.

It is during this spring spawning event that the crabs have been traditionally harvested by picking them up off the beaches for use as preferred bait to catch eels and conch, and for biomedical use. This harvest has raised concern with several ecological groups who see the animal's eggs as a vital food source for migrating shore birds. These bird populations have few options left as to where and when they

can feed, so depletion of this critical food source is unacceptable to their advocates. On the other side of the controversy are the bait harvesters who see no reason to restrict their traditional hand gathering of an animal previously thought to be of no value to anyone, and the biomedical interests who say that the animals can be bled in the laboratory and returned to the water unharmed.

This clash was the impetus behind development last fall of the first coastwide management plan for horseshoe crabs by Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), a compact among the 15 coastal states. The plan's goal is to gather enough data to quantify each state's spawning habitat and the status of the population, so that a reasonable coast-wide quota can be calculated. In compliance with the plan as mandated by federal law, the first spawning survey for horseshoe crabs along Connecticut's shore was conducted last spring by the Fisheries Division, using Fisheries staff and volunteers ranging from biologists to lawyers, school children to retirees. Catch information from a two Fisheries Division trawl surveys was also used. All sites were assigned to the categories listed at right, with unsurveyed sites making up the probable/potential category.

The solution to this conflict lies in gathering better abundance and harvest data. Fisheries Division staff completed a first step this summer by requesting that state statutes be amended to require a commercial license for hand-harvest of horseshoe crabs for sale. All license holders must report their harvest to the Division's Marine Fisheries office. ASMFC is also encouraging development of an artificial bait product which will mimic the qualities of horseshoe crab sought after by commercial and recreational fishers. This may be the best solution for preserving this oddity of evolution so that it can be utilized and enjoyed for many

Preferred Habitat	= 26%
(1551 acres)	
Secondary Habitat	= 32%
(1891 acres)	
Probable/ Potential	= 18%
(1023 acres)	
Not Suitable habitat	= 24%
(1419 acres)	

New from the Fisheries World

[Spokane Spokesman-Review, NPPC Congressional Update]

ISA in Atlantic Salmon. By early November 1999, several leading UK supermarkets, including Marks & Spencer, Safeway, and Sainsbury's, had banned the sale of salmon from (Continues on Pg. 8) 24 farms suspected and 11 farms confirmed as having ISA. [Glasgow Sunday Herald]

Atlantic Salmon. On Nov. 17, 1999, NMFS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service jointly published notice of their proposal to

list a distinct population of anadromous Atlantic salmon in 8 ME rivers entering the Gulf of Maine as endangered. Public comment will be accepted through Feb. 15, 2000, and a public hearing is scheduled on Jan. 19, 2000, in Ellsworth, ME. [Fed. Register, Assoc Press, Environment News Service, NMFS/FWS press release]

Edwards Dam. On Nov. 9, 1999, the Kennebec Coalition announced that the decommissioning and removal of Edwards Dam

on the Kennebec River, ME, had received a 1999 Popular Science magazine "Best of What's New" Award, to be published in a special editorial section of the December 1999 issue of the magazine. [Kennebec Coalition press release]

National Cormorant Management Plan. On Nov. 8, 1999, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announce its intent to develop a comprehensive national cormorant management plan [<http://www.fws.gov/r9mbmo/>



AFS Chapter Dues Reminder!

All AFS members, please remember to check your Parent Society membership renewal form closely to ensure that you are paying your \$5.00 Chapter dues. A recent check of records shows that 47 regular members (17%) and 20 student members (38%) have not paid their Southern New England Chapter Dues! Chapter dues represent the major source of revenue required for our annual operating expenses. Since one of our major expenses is the production and mailing of the newsletter, the Board of Di-

rectors has decided that in the future, we will send the newsletter only to those members who paid their annual dues. To avoid this situation, please make sure you check off the SNEC box on your membership form! If you have any questions relative to your membership status, you can call Trish Milburn at the AFS headquarters at 301-897-8616 (extension



Past President John Kocik presents Mark Rasmussen, Executive Director of The Coalition to Save Buzzards Bay with the SNEC Conservation Award on July 9, 1999.

Environmental Affairs

I have recently taken over the position of co-chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee. One of the primary purposes of the committee is to communicate regional and nationally important fishery topics to our Chapter members through our newsletter. I am a fisheries biologist for Northeast Utilities working primarily at Millstone Nuclear Power Station in Waterford, CT and at the Holyoke Dam, MA.

To have an effective committee, I need some help and am looking for some new committee members. Ideally, the committee should represent a good cross section of our Chapter, including freshwater, marine and anadromous fisheries biologists from our three member states. As we are all very busy, I envision much of your commitment to be in the form of e-mailing me brief summaries of important fisheries issues with maybe a small group meeting occurring during our Chapter meeting break or lunch period.

Please send me an e-mail if interested.

Thanks.



Student Membership Grants Available

The Southern New England Chapter sponsors up to 10 Student Membership Grants per year for students who are interested in becoming members of the American Fisheries Society. The grants provide a one-year student membership to the American Fisheries Society and the

Southern New England Chapter. The purpose of the program is to allow students to "test drive" the parent society and evaluate the importance of professional involvement in the development of their fisheries careers. Grants are now being awarded for the 2000 membership year. Criteria are as follows:

low:

- (1) The student is one of the first ten to apply in any year.
- (2) The student must be nominated by a faculty member (the letter should include reasons why the student is deserving of the

grant).

- (3) The student attends school in Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Rhode Island.
- (4) The student is an upper-division undergraduate or beginning graduate student.

Faculty members should encourage interested fisheries students to apply for grants - **Remember that students who are not members of the society do not get this newsletter!** Students who are involved in establishing the campus network with the Student Affairs Committee are especially encouraged to apply.

Membership grant applications can be downloaded from the chapter's website (<http://www.wh.who.edu/snecafs/docs/membawrd.htm>) or can be sent by calling or emailing Carolyn Griswold, (Phone: 401-782-3273 ; email: Carolyn).

Request for Student Involvement (cont.)

The SAC is strongly encouraging (continued on Page 7) all SNEC-AFS student members to become involved in supporting the building of a strong student membership and involvement in the Chapter. The opportunity for personal and professional growth is significant, and the Chapter and the SAC need your help! Students should contact Greg Whritenour or Marcy Anderson for further information on the student positions available, to submit comments or suggestions for building student membership and involvement in the Chapter, or to volunteer to help with the SNEC-AFS Student Colloquium. I encourage all student members to consider submitting an abstract for the upcoming Winter Meeting, and to plan on attending!

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Whritenour, SNEC-AFS SAC Co-Chair
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Holdsworth Hall
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
(413) 253-1303 (home)

Education Committee Survey Results

First of all, thanks again to the individuals who responded to the Continuing Education Survey in the past Sounder. Although participation was low with only 15 responses, the results have been tabulated.

Sixty-seven percent responded that having a course offered in conjunction with the NEF&W Conference or a SNEC Chapter meeting would make attending a workshop more convenient.

Forty percent of the respondents felt the best time for a course would be in the winter months in conjunction with the winter SNEC meeting, while the

remaining sixty percent was distributed throughout the months of April through December. Sixty percent responded that combining training with a meeting would make it easier to get agency funding for their training.

Course length preference was divided, with forty-seven percent responding two days, twenty-seven percent preferred one day, and an additional thirteen percent responded either one or two days.

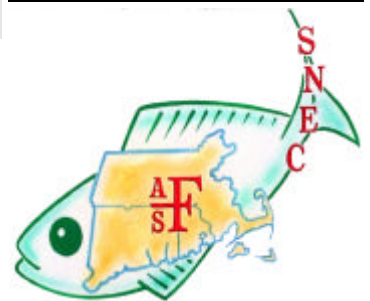
Responses for travel distance to attend a course was also divided, with forty percent willing to travel 100 miles or two hours and twenty percent re-

sponded within the Southern New England chapter.

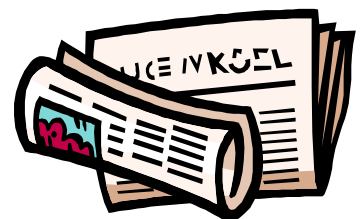
Course topics varied with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in fisheries receiving seven responses, human dimensions receiving five responses and computer software used in fisheries, habitat management (lakes and streams), and Habitat Suitability Criteria and instream flow assessment each receiving four responses.

In addition, stream ecology, stock assessment techniques, and underwater observation techniques each received three responses.

— Marcy Anderson



CHAPTER NEWS



AFS Introduced Fish Section Seeks New Members

The AFS Introduced Fish Section (IFS) provides members with an array of information on many aspects of introduced fish. Information is provided through the Section's newsletter (3 issues per year),



organization and sponsorship related to introduced fish and special publications. The Section also represents \$150 to the student having the best poster or presentation on introduced aquatic species at the AFS annual meeting.

As an incentive for membership recruitment, IFS President Don Baltz will offer \$50 worth of AFS raffle tickets to

the AFS member recruiting the most new members to IFS.

Membership in IFS is \$5.00 and should be sent to:

Charles Brown

IFS Secretary-Treasurer

US Dept. of Agriculture

APHIS

4700 River Road, Unit 149

Riverside, MD 20737-1238

AFS International Fisheries Section Acknowledges SNEC Donation

To the SNEC of AFS
John F. Kocik, President

Dear John,

The International Fisheries Section (IFS) wishes to thank you for your contribution to the Russian Far-East fisheries laboratory journal donation program. The IFS was able, with your assistance, to raise enough money to provide the journals "Fisheries", "Transactions of the American Fisheries Society", and the "North American Journal of Fisheries Management" to seven laboratories, located in the Russian Far-east for a period of 3 years starting with the new issues in year 2000. In the immediate future we will be mailing the current 1999 issues.

The IFS has over the last ten years developed the journal and book placement program with excellent success. The Western Division's "challenge grant" contribution helped to set a new record for a onetime purchase and placement of AFS publications. John, without the Western Division and the Southern New England Chapter, this project could not have happened. Your efforts were matched by generous support from other AFS units across the country.

Thank you again, for your time, effort and donation in support of this project. If you, or any members have questions, or would like more details, please contact me.

Sincerely,
Glen P. Contreras
Acting President, IFS
4408 Santa Clara Ct.

NMFS Northeast Region News

SEA SCALLOP OPENING ON GEORGES BANK YIELDS 6 MILLION POUNDS OF MEATS:

(Gloucester, MA) Scallop fishing in a recently reopened portion of Georges Bank will end November 12, NOAA Fisheries announced today. By the time the fishery closes, scallopers will have harvested nearly 6 million pounds of scallop meats worth approximately \$36 million. Approximately 185 vessels participated in the fishery, making more than 580 trips to Area II. @)###<<

STATISTICS ON MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHING IN THE NORTHEAST AVAILABLE ONLINE. (Woods Hole, MA) A statistical profile of marine recreational fisheries in the Northeast United States has been published and posted online by the NOAA Fisheries Office of Science and Technology. The three volume set, which provides a comprehensive portrait of marine anglers on a state-by-state basis, is available at no charge from

NOAA Fisheries, and can be found online at the Office of Science and Technology's web site: www.st.nmfs.gov/st1/econ.

COMMERCE SECRETARY DALEY ANNOUNCES DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM FOR FISHERMEN:

(Gloucester, MA) The Commerce Department will provide \$5 million in disaster relief to commercial fishermen who have suffered losses because of declining fish stocks in the Gulf of Maine, Commerce Secretary William Daley announced. The \$5 million relief funds were approved by Congress at the request of the New England delegation, which urged NOAA Fisheries to work with the affected fishermen to develop a disaster assistance program to disburse the money. In order to take part in the proposed program, fishermen receiving relief funds this year would make a commitment to participate in fishery-related research.

FEDS ENCOURAGE RESEARCH PROJECTS WITH

FISHERMEN: (Gloucester, MA)

NOAA Fisheries has established a program to involve the fishing industry directly in planning and conducting studies that provide useful information for managing fisheries. The new industry/ government cooperative research program, announced by NOAA Fisheries Administrator Pat Kurkul, is made possible by a \$1.88 million appropriation designed to improve the management of Northeast commercial fisheries.

CHU TO LEAD REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICE FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH:

(Gloucester, MA) Dr. Kevin Chu has been named the director of a newly-created regional office that will coordinate collaborative fisheries research projects involving the federal government and fishermen. Chu received a PhD in zoology in 1988 from Boston University. Before working for NOAA Fisheries, he worked in the State Department and served briefly on the staff of the Foreign

SNEC Annual 1999 Awards Given at Summer Meeting

The Southern New England Chapter proudly presented the 1999 Annual Awards at the summer meeting in Hadley, MA. These awards recognize the outstanding contributions that SNEC individual members, professional organizations and citizen's organizations make to professional activities and aquatic resource conservation. The following is the exact wording for each presentation.

Citizen Aquatic Conservation Award

Is hereby awarded to **Albin Weber**, in recognition of his years of volunteer service in the protection, conservation, restoration and enhancement of coldwater fishery resources. You are a driving force in grass roots efforts to conserve and restore fishery resources throughout Connecticut.

Irwin Alperin Outstanding Member Award

Is hereby awarded to **Chris Powell** in recognition of his boundless enthusiasm in support of the Chapter membership. Whether serving as Chapter President (1997-1998), on the Board of Directors, leading group discussions, or hawking T-shirts, Chris infuses others with an excitement to 'get involved'.

Outstanding Organization Award

Is hereby awarded to **Milone and MacBroom, Inc.** and **James G. MacBroom**, Vice President, in recognition of your commitment to maintaining aquatic habitat and restoring fishery resources throughout Connecticut using innovative engineering solutions.

Outstanding Organization Award

Is hereby awarded to **Coalition for Buzzards Bay** in recognition of its outstanding effectiveness in the conservation and stewardship of aquatic habitats and resources in the Buzzards Bay Watershed.

Special Achievement

Is hereby awarded to **Lesa Meng** in recognition of her exceptional contributions in leading an outstanding fund raising event through the design and sale of 1998 American Fisheries Society T-Shirts.

Special Achievement

Is hereby awarded to **Chuck Phillips** in recognition of your effort and leadership as General Meeting Chair and Arrangements Chair responsible for the oversight, planning and logistics of the 128th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Hartford, Connecticut. Your efforts showcased the best of Southern New England and the Chapter.

Certificate of Appreciation

awarded to **President John F. Kocik** in recognition of personal contributions to the advancement and improvement of fisheries science in the profession and public interest by serving as President of the Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Northeast Division of the American Fisheries Society for the period of August 26, 1998 to June 16, 1999.

Award of Excellence

Is hereby awarded to **Henry Boone** in recognition of your exceptional contributions to the fields of fishery administration, education, management and research and your unyielding commitment to the advancement of the goals and objectives of the American Fisheries Society, the Northeastern Division, and the Southern New England Chapter.

Congratulations and thanks for these contributions!

Chapter Finances - Where does the money go?

Many chapter members probably wonder how their dues and meeting registration fees are used to promote chapter objectives. Here's our attempt to answer some of the common questions regarding chapter finances.

I know that I pay my \$5 dues, but what other revenue does the chapter have?

Chapter dues are \$5 for AFS members who pay their dues through the Parent Society, and \$10 for all others. In addition to Chapter dues, the Society also receives a 3% rebate for each Parent Society member who lives in the Southern New England area. This rebate was suspended several years ago in response to fiscal difficulties, but was reinstated last year. Last year, the chapter collected approximately \$1,300 in dues and \$510 in chapter rebates from the Parent Society (\$7.22 per member). When the Parent Society suspended chapter rebates several years ago, the NE Division agreed to replace chapter rebates by passing Division rebates from the Parent Society (also 3% of dues) directly to the chapters. Despite the fact that the Parent Society reinstated chapter rebates in 1999, the Division continues to pass Division rebates to the chapters. In 1999, this resulted in the Chapter receiving two checks for \$510.60 for the 1998 rebates, one from the Parent Society and one from the Division.

In addition, the Chapter has realized profits from recent chapter meetings, continuing education workshops, and special events. Chapter meetings and continuing education workshops are operated with the intention of achieving a small profit (thereby reducing the risk that an event will lose money). Chapter activities related to the hosting of the 1998 American Fisheries Society meeting remains as the single most important fiscal event in the 30-year history of the Chapter. The Chapter signed a Memorandum of Understanding that provided \$2,000 of meeting profits to compensate the chapter for not holding our 1998 Summer meeting. In addition, T-Shirt sales provided a net profit between \$6,000 and \$7,000 to the chapter. These revenues left the chapter in a financially robust position, providing opportunities to enhance membership benefits.

How are my membership dues used?

The chapter provides a number of membership benefits including communication through a biannual newsletter and a website, an awards program to recognize outstanding organizations and individuals in the region, a series of grant and awards programs to support students, publicity activities to promote chapter activities, and continuing education programs to benefit professionals and students. The Chapter budgets about \$1,100 annual (about \$4 per chapter member) to produce and mail this newsletter and announcements about meetings. Recently, the newsletter editors have been successful in getting the copying and/or mailing costs of the newsletter underwritten by agencies and private businesses reducing the Chapter's costs. The Website is administered without cost to the chapter.

The chapter spends about \$210 annually (about 80¢ per chapter member) to support its professional awards program and about \$200 annually (about 77¢ per member) on publicity including photography/developing and development of the chapter display (cost prorated across several years).

What Do We Do for Students?

In a nutshell, a lot! As a matter of fact, I'd challenge you to find another AFS chapter that does more for their students. The chapter budgets \$880 (about \$3.30 per member) for student grants, awards, and support for the Student Affairs Committee. Students receive discounted meeting registration fees regardless of their membership status, and student presenters are eligible for the Best Student Paper award, which includes a \$50 check and a plaque. The Chapter awards up to 10 Student Membership Grants annually to fisheries and aquatic sciences students who are recommended by a faculty member. These grants provide one-year memberships to the Parent Society and Chapter for each student. In addition, the Chapter sponsors up to four Associate Certification awards annually for eligible student chapter members, providing the certification fee (\$50) for each eligible student who applies for Associate Certification. This is your money working to promote professional development and enhance future recruitment to the profession - one of several things that a professional society is supposed to do!

How are Chapter funds invested?

Before 1999, the chapter had a small (\$2,000) Certificate of Deposit and a non interest-bearing checking account. With the large increase in chapter funds in late 1998, the chapter invested \$7,000 in a Vanguard Money Market account. This account is expected to earn approximately \$350 in dividends during 1999. Based on the recommendations from the Board of Directors, the Chapter will soon invest some funds in a broad-based equity fund.

What does the Chapter use my meeting registration fees for?

The meeting registration fees (\$30 for members, \$15 for students, \$35 for non-members) were established with the objective of cover meeting expenses, while providing the chapter with a small profit to be used for chapter activities (and to reduce the risk that the chapter would lose money on a poorly attended meeting). Costs to operate a chapter meeting including printing and mailing of the Call for Abstracts and Meeting Pre-Registration Materials, travel costs for invited speakers, complimentary registrations for award recipients, facility rental fees, contracting for registration, printing of abstract books and meeting schedules, pre-meeting coffee and morning coffee breaks, and most importantly, LUNCH! After all, there is no free lunch!

Several years ago when the Chapter was experiencing some financial difficulties, the Chapter initiated several cost cutting strategies including reducing our expenditures on invited speakers, seeking facilities that have low or no room charges, and handling our own registration (significant time donation by the Secretary/Treasurer). These three actions have resulted in average meeting budgets rising from a break-even to negative bottom line, to meetings that now average \$600-\$700 per meeting profits. The Chapter has recently sought to increase expenditures on invited speakers, as part of an overall effort to invest chapter funds in membership benefits. Finally, the Executive Committee has decided to temporarily lower Member meeting registration costs from \$30 to \$25 for chapter meetings during 2000 (see this



American Fisheries Society Southern New England Chapter

AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION (mail materials to ____ personal or ____ employer address)[illegible]

Address	Address
---------	---------

City State Zip/Postal Code **City State Zip/Postal Code**

Title

Employed by: ___industry ___academia ___federal govt. ___
___state govt. ___self

Please provide phone numbers for chapter purposes only:

Home () _____ Work () _____

Fax () _____ E-mail _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES* \$10.00 **Please check one:** Check Cash

*All memberships are for a calendar year.

Make checks payable to: *Southern New England Chapter American Fisheries Society*

SNEC-AFS Student Affairs Committee Request for Student Involvement

The SNEC-AFS Student Affairs Committee (SAC) is recruiting SNEC-AFS students to join the effort to build a strong student membership and involvement in the SNEC. The SAC has the responsibility of providing a communication network for students in the Chapter and promoting student interest and participation in Chapter and AFS activities. The 1999-2000 SAC Plan of Work is focused on the goals of recruiting and involving students in the Chapter. Opportunities for student involvement in the SNEC-AFS include:

- attendance, networking, and presentation of academic research at Chapter and Parent Society meetings, and the opportunity to win awards and public recognition;
- volunteer service as a Student Representative for Chapter universities and colleges, a member of the SAC or other Chapter Committees; and
- the development of professional development programs for fisheries students, and for the benefit of the community through AFS student activities.

Since 1997, several universities and colleges in southern New England have become involved with SNEC and student membership is growing. The SAC is in need of the support of fisheries students who understand the importance of and opportunities provided by student involvement in the AFS, and in the SNEC. **The following positions for student involvement in the SAC and the SNEC are currently available to students:**

- **Student Representative (SR)** positions at UMass/Amherst, UMass/Dartmouth, Roger Williams College, URI, Boston Univer-

sity, Westfield State College, and Northeastern University. The SRs work with the SAC and CNR/FRs to recruit students and promote student involvement in the Chapter and the AFS.

- **SAC Co-Chair.** We have Chairs from Conn. (Marcy Anderson, UConn) And MA (Greg Whritenour, UMass/Amherst), and need a Chair from Rhode Island (or another Chair from Conn. Or MA), and a replacement for the MA Chair to serve on the SAC to develop a strong student membership and involvement in the SNEC.
- **Student recruiter**, to coordinate recruitment at the Chapter universities and colleges.
- **Web page manager**, to build a SAC web page module, and submit reports of Committee activities for dissemination through the Chapter newsletter and the Chapter World Wide Web site on the Internet.

The SAC is looking for volunteers to help plan and conduct a student colloquium during the spring academic semester, to bring students from throughout the Chapter together to discuss academic and professional work and development, and for networking to promote student recruitment and involvement in the SNEC. Interested individuals should contact Marcy Anderson at manderso@canur1.cag.uconn.edu



The SOUNDER

Timothy Sheehan
NMFS/ NEFSC
166 Water Street
Woods Hole, MA 02543

*The Newsletter of
the Southern New England Chapter*